

Clean Water Council

FY16-17 Clean Water Fund Recommendations Report Summary

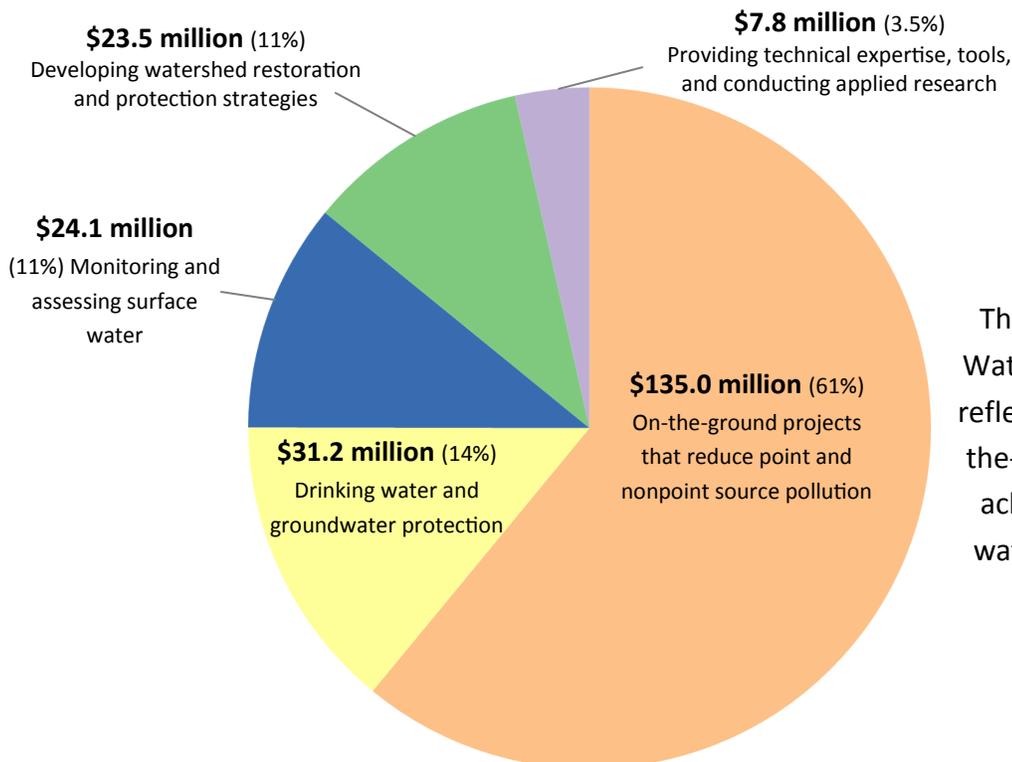
Over the past two years, the Clean Water Council has developed recommendations for the Legislature and Governor on how FY16-17 Clean Water Funds should be appropriated, policies that could accelerate water quality improvements, and resolutions important to the success of achieving clean water. The Council's full report is available at www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanwatercouncil. The Council believes a higher percentage of Clean Water Fund dollars must be dedicated to on-the-ground restoration activities to meet water resource challenges over the long term. A greater proportion of local, state, and federal funding sources will be vital to achieve Minnesotans' vision for clean and sustainable water.



Wirth Lake in Golden Valley has been cleaned up by the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission using Clean Water Funds and other funding sources.

Photo credit: Greg Wilson, Barr Engineering

Clean Water Council FY16-17 Clean Water Fund Recommendations by Category (\$221.6 million)



The Council's FY16-17 Clean Water Fund recommendations reflect a greater priority for on-the-ground programs that will achieve the most significant water quality improvements.

The *Clean Water Fund Performance Report* and *Clean Water Roadmap* make it clear Minnesota will still face major water resource issues by the end of the Legacy Funds (2034).

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FY16-17 Policy Recommendations

Considering the progress to date and the complexity of water resource issues, Clean Water Fund dollars alone will not be able to meet Minnesota citizens' expectations for clean water. To successfully address water resource issues, improvements to land practices are also necessary. From a range of issues presented to the Council in 2013 and 2014, two policy recommendations have the Council's support:

- Riparian Buffers
- Water Retention, Storage, and Infiltration

If the Council's recommendations are adopted, they should accelerate water quality improvement.

Resolutions

Clean Water Council resolutions convey to the Legislature and the public the Council's conclusions on topics important to the success of achieving clean water. In 2014, the Council approved resolutions to:

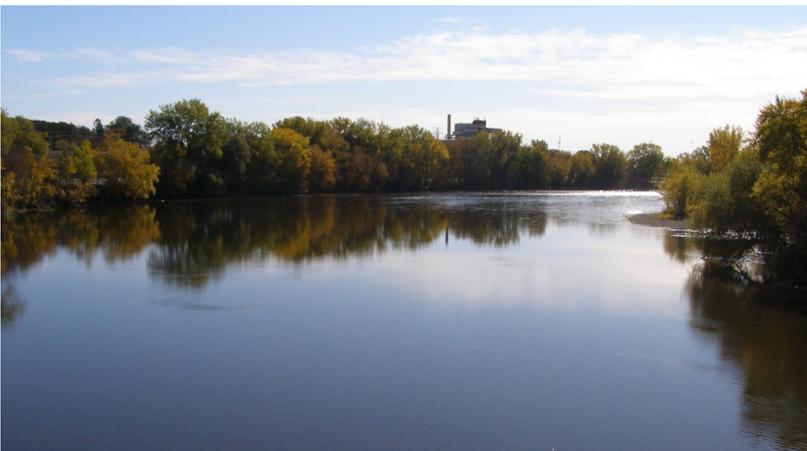
- Adopt Clean Water Fund Guidelines for Aquatic Invasive Species Activities
- Endorse a "One Watershed, One Plan" Framework for Water Resources Planning

Process to develop the Council's Clean Water Fund Recommendations

The Council adopted *Guiding Principles and Funding Priorities* to guide the development of Clean Water Fund recommendations. Council members met with state agencies and requested information about their programs and solicited feedback from stakeholders on draft Clean Water Fund recommendations.

Clean Water Council

The Clean Water Council was established in 2006 to advise the Legislature and Governor on the administration and implementation of the Clean Water Legacy Act, MN Statutes 114D. The 28-member Council represents organizations statewide that have a major role in achieving clean water.



More information

More information about the Clean Water Council including more detailed budget and policy recommendations and resolutions can be found at www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanwatercouncil. More details about programs that receive Clean Water Funds can be found at www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/clean-water-fund.